

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please the following new claims as shown below:

1. (original) A fluorescent lamp comprising:
a stem provided with first and second lead wires for energization of an electrode; and
an electrically-insulating member having a first hole and a second hole larger in cross-sectional area than said second lead wire;
wherein said first and second lead wires are inserted in said first and second holes of said electrically-insulating member, respectively; and
wherein an outer diameter of a glass envelope of the fluorescent lamp is not smaller than 13 mm and not larger than 29 mm.
2. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 1, wherein said electrically-insulating member reduces a possibility that substance spattered from said electrode deposits on a surface of said stem and on said first and second lead wires to form a deposit as part of an electric path which short-circuits said first and second lead wires.
3. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 1, wherein said electrically-insulating member functions, when discharge takes place with said first and second lead wires as hot spots, to suppress the discharge from being maintained.
4. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 1, wherein said electrically-insulating member is held to said first and second lead wires by means of a holding member.

5. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 1, wherein said electrically-insulating member is a plate-like member and is made of one of an insulating ceramic, quartz glass and mica.

6. (original) A fluorescent lamp comprising:
a stem provided with first and second lead wires for energization of an electrode; and
an electrically-insulating member having a first hole and a second hole larger in cross-sectional area than said second lead wire;
wherein said first and second lead wires are inserted in said first and second holes of said electrically-insulating member, respectively, and then bent in directions so as to increase the spacing between said first and second lead wires at parts of said first and second lead wires which are extended from said stem and which are located on sides of tips thereof from said electrically-insulating member; and
wherein an outer diameter of a glass envelope of said fluorescent lamp is not smaller than 13 mm and not larger than 29 mm.

7. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electrically-insulating member reduces a possibility that substance spattered from said electrode deposits on a surface of said stem and on said first and second lead wires to form a deposit as part of an electric path which short-circuits said first and second lead wires.

8. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electrically-insulating member functions, when discharge takes place with said first and second lead wires as hot spots, to suppress the discharge from being maintained.

9. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electrically-insulating member is held to said first and second lead wires by means of a holding member.

10. (original) A fluorescent lamp as set forth in claim 6, wherein said electrically-insulating member is a plate-like member and is made of one of an insulating ceramic, quartz glass and mica.

11. (original) A fluorescent lamp device wherein a fluorescent lamp is high-frequency lighted, comprising:

a fluorescent lamp including:

a stem provided with first and second lead wires for energization of an electrode; and

an electrically-insulating member having a first hole and a second hole larger in cross-sectional area than said second lead wire;

said first and second lead wires being inserted in said first and second holes of said electrically-insulating member, respectively;

wherein an outer diameter of a glass envelope of said fluorescent lamp is not smaller than 13 mm and not larger than 29 mm; and

wherein a high-frequency lighting circuit is provided for lighting said fluorescent lamp.

12. (original) A fluorescent lamp device as set forth in claim 11, wherein said electrically-insulating member reduces a possibility that substance spattered from said electrode deposits on a surface of said stem and on said first and second lead wires to form a deposit as part of an electric path which short-circuits said first and second lead wires.

13. (original) A fluorescent lamp device as set forth in claim 11, wherein said electrically-insulating member functions, when discharge takes place with said first and second lead wires as hot spots, to suppress the discharge from being maintained.

14. (original) A fluorescent lamp device as set forth in claim 11, wherein said electrically-insulating member is held to said first and second lead wires by means of a holding member.

15. (original) A fluorescent lamp device as set forth in claim 11, wherein said electrically-insulating member is a plate-like member and is made of one of an insulating ceramic, quartz glass and mica.

16. (original) A fluorescent lamp device wherein a fluorescent lamp is high-frequency lighted, comprising:
a fluorescent lamp including:
a stem provided with first and second lead wires for energization of an electrode; and
an electrically-insulating member having a first hole and a second hole larger in cross-sectional area than said second lead wire;
said first and second lead wires being inserted in said first and second holes of said electrically-insulating member, respectively;
wherein a spacing between a top of said stem and said member being not smaller than 0 mm and not larger than 5 mm; and
wherein a high-frequency lighting circuit is provided for lighting said fluorescent lamp.

17. (new) A fluorescent lamp comprising an envelope, a stem provided with a pair of lead wires for energization of an electrode, and an electrically-insulating member disposed between said electrode and said stem and having a pair of holes through which said lead wires extend, wherein a cross-sectional area of said holes is larger than a cross-sectional area of said lead wires so as to leave a gap between a boundary of a respective hole and a respective lead wire extended therethrough.

18. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, wherein one of a ratio of the cross-sectional area of the respective hole divided by the cross-sectional area of the respective lead wire is not smaller than 1.2 and not larger than 10, and a ratio of a diameter of the respective hole divided by a diameter of the respective lead wire is not smaller than 1.1 and not larger than 3.3.

19. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, wherein said pair of wires are bent so as to increase in spacing therebetween as said pair of lead wires extend away from said electrically-insulating member.

20. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, wherein said electrically-insulating member is fixed to said stem by a wire engaging a hole provided in said electrically-insulating member which is intermediate said pair of holes.

21. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, wherein said electrically-insulating member is held to said lead wires by means of stopper members fixed to said lead wires.

22. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, wherein said electrically-insulating member is plate-like and made of at least one of ceramic, quartz glass and mica.

23. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, wherein a spacing between a top of said stem and said electrically-insulating member is not larger than 5 mm.

24. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, wherein said envelope has an outer diameter not smaller than 5 mm and not larger than 33 mm.

25. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 24, wherein said envelope has an outer diameter not smaller than 13 mm and not larger than 29 mm.

26. (new) A fluorescent lamp device comprising said fluorescent lamp according to claim 17, and a high-frequency circuit for lighting said fluorescent lamp.

27. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 18, wherein said pair of wires are bent so as to increase in spacing therebetween as said pair of lead wires extend away from said electrically-insulating member.

28. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 18, wherein said electrically-insulating member is fixed to said stem by a wire engaging a hole provided in said electrically-insulating member which is intermediate said pair of holes.

29. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 18, wherein said electrically-insulating member is held to said lead wires by means of stopper members fixed to said lead wires.

30. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 18, wherein said electrically-insulating member is plate-like and made of at least one of ceramic, quartz glass and mica.

31. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 18, wherein a spacing between a top of said stem and said electrically-insulating member is not larger than 5 mm.

32. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 18, wherein said envelope has an outer diameter not smaller than 5 mm and not larger than 33 mm.

33. (new) A fluorescent lamp according to claim 32, wherein said envelope has an outer diameter not smaller than 13 mm and not larger than 29 mm.

34. (new) A fluorescent lamp device comprising the fluorescent lamp according to claim 18, and a high-frequency circuit for lighting said fluorescent lamp.